

The Racial and Social Equity Committee (RASEC) was formed in 2020 to provide opportunities to build awareness, engage in mutual learning, and recommend actions that will foster a thriving, inclusive, and diverse community.



2022-2023

Building Awareness

- Created **Housing Workgroup** to explore ways to increase housing options to support economic, racial, and ethnic diversity
- Sponsored three informational programs on pros and cons of **accessory dwelling units** (ADU's)
- Designed and completed **Town Survey** on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion -- working on data analysis
- Designed and adopted a **RASEC logo** and a process for its use
- Provided **liaison** to community group to support equity in development and sustainability

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Mutual Learning

- Forum on **discriminatory housing policies**
- Three-session **storytelling project** created by Adventures with Wilson

Washington Grove/Emory Grove Events

- **Pastor Tim Warner** virtual talk on Emory Grove history and its plans to rebuild
- **Walking tour** of WG/EG historic sites and lunch
- **Ice Cream Social** with discussion groups

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Recommending Actions

- Drafted and submitted to the Town Council a **Resolution** Acknowledging Washington Grove's Racially Exclusionary Past and Committing to an Equitable and Inclusive Future
- Advocated for WG to formally grant **Indigenous Peoples' Day and Juneteenth** as holidays to employee
- Aided the process to **remove racially restrictive covenants** from deeds (12 filed, three in process) and advocated legislators to pass legislation to remove covenants en masse
- Contributed anti-racist, Town history, and housing options **language for Comprehensive Plan**
- Supported Town's application for the **Maryland Sustainability Certification**

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2023-2024

Goals for 2023-24

- More **trust-building and outreach activities** between WG residents and residents of neighboring communities
- Work with Washington Grove United Methodist Church to utilize data to guide outreach to **local Latino communities**
- Design and **establish study groups** based on survey data and reactions to the Anti-Racist Resolution
- Form a **Work Group to investigate renaming Boundary Street**

Upcoming Educational Programs

- June series of three facilitated group **discussions to explore racial attitudes** following the viewing of a documentary